

THE Canadian Practitioner

A SEMI-MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS
OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES.

Contributions of various descriptions are invited. We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere current medical news of general interest.

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MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

The report of Dr. Rauch, Secretary of the Illinois State Board of Health, on medical education in the United States and Canada, which we have just received, gives much valuable and interesting information. It shows that there are altogether 139 colleges in existence, of which there are 126 in the United States, and thirteen in Canada. The total number of colleges requiring attendance on three or more courses is sixty-four. There are still sixty-two colleges in the United States that only require attendance on two courses. It is certainly remarkable that in this great country, containing such institutions as Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Universities of Michigan and Pennsylvania, etc., this condition of things should exist. But that there is a great improvement in this respect is shown by the fact that in 1882 there were only twenty-two colleges requiring the three years' course. The total number of colleges exclusively for women is eight, of which two are in Canada. The total number of students attending lectures during the session of 1888-9 was 13,714 in the United States, and 1,491 in Canada.

The following is a list of the medical colleges in Canada, with the number in attendance during session 1888-9, as reported by the authorities of the various schools: Trinity Medical College, 289; Medical Faculty, University of Toronto, 258; Medical Faculty, McGill University, 233; Ecole de Medicine et de Chirurgie, of Montreal, 202; Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Kingston, 150; Laval University, Medical Depart-

ments of Quebec and Montreal, 149; Medical Department of the Western University, London, 64; Medical Faculty of Bishops College, Montreal, 39; Manitoba Medical College, Winnipeg, 30; Halifax Medical College, 19; Woman's Medical College, Toronto, 35; Woman's Medical College, Kingston, 23. It will be seen from these figures that about forty per cent. of all the medical students in Canada are being educated in Toronto, and about the same proportion (including the French students) in Montreal.

It is stated that no less than eight new medical Colleges were opened during the past year in the United States. We find the following sensible comments on this fact: "In this connection it becomes a serious question to consider in regard to any new school, whether it is properly equipped from a teaching, a laboratory, and a clinical, standpoint. Can it be said with truth that there is any necessity for additions to the present large number of medical schools, some of which are not now properly provided for, and therefore hold out inducements, with results which tend so much to cast a stigma upon medical training and medical diplomas in the United States? More attention should be paid to securing endowments for medical institutions now existing, giving them more and better facilities to instruct, than to the creation of new schools inadequately endowed." One of the foot notes tells us: "The craze for establishing medical colleges, commenced in the United States about 1840, and continued uninterruptedly until 1880, when there was a lull, but it seems again to have broken out. The chances of survival of new colleges will be better appreciated when it is borne in mind that since 1850 there has been a mortality of over three per year, and that, at this time, more is required of the graduates of such institutions than at any period in the history of medical education in this country."

THE TORONTO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

Some people appear to think that the old Toronto School of Medicine is now the Medical Faculty of the University, and as such controls all matters connected with this Faculty, with the result of increasing the incomes of the members of the former corporation. Such an idea is incorrect, and, as it is likely to